

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 154559 TOSEC 050048

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, SO, US

SUBJECT: SOMALI AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON ACTING SECRETARY RE
BERBERA

1. AMBASSADOR ADDOU MET WITH ACTING SECRETARY INGERSOLL
JUNE 30 TO PRESENT NOTE OF PROTEST FROM SOMALI GOVERNMENT
(SEPTEL) CONCERNING DEFENSE SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S
STATEMENTS TO CONGRESS ON SOVIET MILITARY PRESENCE IN
BERBERA. ADDOU EMPHASIZED THAT THE NOTE WAS ADDRESSED TO
THIS NARROW QUESTION AND HE HOPED IT WOULD NOT IN ANY WAY
"POISON" RELATIONS BETWEEN US AND SOMALIA. ADDOU REPEATED
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STANDARD LINE, I.E., SOMALIA IS JEALOUS OF ITS

SOVEREIGNTY AND WOULD NEVER SURRENDER SMALLEST PART OF IT TO ANY FOREIGN POWER. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT SOMALIA HAD GOOD RELATIONS WITH USSR, BUT SAID THESE WERE BASED ON MUTUAL RESPECT AND NON-INTERVENTION IN EACH OTHER'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS.

2. ADDOU SAID HE HAD INSTRUCTIONS TO PRESENT A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT SIAD TO PRESIDENT FORD. HE SAID HE WOULD WAIT AS LONG AS NECESSARY FOR APPOINTMENT, WHICH SHOULD TAKE "ONLY A FEW MINUTES". HE SAID PRESIDENT FORD WOULD BE "PLEASED" WHEN HE SAW SIAD'S MESSAGE. THE ACTING SECRETARY SAID THAT THE AMBASSADOR'S REQUEST WOULD BE PASSED TO THE WHITE HOUSE.

3. ALLUDING TO HEAVY SOVIET PRESENCE AND INFLUENCE IN SOMALIA, ADDOU SAID: "WE DESIRE TO SEE SOVIET PRESENCE DIMINISHED". (IT WAS NOT CLEAR WHETHER ADDOU WAS ATTRIBUTING THESE SENTIMENTS TO HIS PRESIDENT OR WAS SIMPLY SPEAKING ON HIS OWN BEHALF. THE AMBIGUITY WAS PROBABLY INTENTIONAL.) REDUCTION OF DEPENDENCE ON SOVIETS WAS POSSIBLE, SAID ADDOU, ONLY IF US BECOMES MORE INVOLVED IN SOMALIA. ADDOU SAID HE HOPED REGULAR PORT CALLS BY THE U.S. NAVY WOULD BE A STEP IN THAT DIRECTION.

4. THE ACTING SECRETARY SAID THAT WE WERE HAPPY TO HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ASSIST SOMALIA WITH DROUGHT RELIEF AND WE HOPED TO BE ABLE TO DO MORE IN THE FUTURE. ADDOU SAID THAT SUCH HELP WILL BE VERY USEFUL IN THE EFFORT TO REHABILITATE DROUGHT VICTIMS.

5. ADDOU SAID THAT A GREAT DEBATE HAD BEEN TAKING PLACE IN THE GSDR CONCERNING SOMALI FOREIGN POLICY, THE OUTCOME OF WHICH WAS TO SEEK SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT OF RELATIONS WITH US AND TO "REDUCE THEIR HEAVY DEPENDENCE ON ONE POWER".

6. ADDOU SAID THAT THERE WERE FEWER SENATORS MAKING TRIP TO BERBERA THAN HE HAD HOPED. HE WAS MORE PLEASED WITH THE SIZE OF THE HOUSE CONTINGENT. HE STATED ONCE AGAIN HIS CONVICTION THAT THE LEGISLATORS WOULD SEE THAT THERE

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WAS NO SOVIET BASE IN BERBERA.

7. THE ACTING SECRETARY SAID HE KNEW THE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS WHO HAD BEEN INVITED TO VISIT SOMALIA WERE APPRECIATIVE OF THE COURTESIES AMBASSADOR ADDOU AND THE GSDR HAD EXTENDED THEM. HE SAID WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO THE REPORTS THEY WILL BRING BACK AND WE HOPE THAT THESE WILL CLEAR THE AIR AND PERMIT US ALL TO RETURN TO THE MAIN

TASK OF LONG-TERM IMPROVEMENT OF US-SOMALI RELATIONS.

8. AFTER THE MEETING WITH INGERSOLL, ADDOU SAID THAT HE HAD BEEN INVITED TO TRAVEL ON THE SENATORIAL AIRPLANE, BUT SINCE HE MUST WAIT FOR REPLY TO HIS REQUEST FOR A MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT, HE WAS SENDING HIS COUNSELOR, IBRAHIM HAJI MUSSA, TO ACCOMPANY THE SENATORS. INGERSOLL

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